2009 Economic Development Report
Talbot County, Maryland

Talbot County Office of Economic Development
Paige R. Bethke, Director

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www.talbotcountymd.gov

Talbot County Government   **11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601**
(410) 770-8010

Talbot County Council: **Philip Carey Foster, President; Levin F. Harrison, IV, Vice President; Dirck K. Bartlett; Thomas G. Duncan; Corey W. Pack (Council Economic Development Liaison)**

Talbot County Manager: R. Andrew Hollis

Talbot County Government

Talbot County is a Charter form of government, governed by an elected Council composed of five at-large members. The Talbot County Charter establishes all rights and powers of local self-government and home rule provided by this document and by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Maryland. In the exercise of these powers, the citizens of Talbot County shall be accorded equal treatment in all matters under the jurisdiction of the County government regardless of race, creed, sex ,or national origin.

Office of Economic Development

The Talbot County Office of Economic Development is responsible for implementing County economic development initiatives to support investment and growth in the economic base of the county. This includes the retention, expansion and attraction of business, and the promotion of a technically skilled workforce with family supporting wages. The Office of Economic Development prepares an Annual Economic Analysis to report on the county economy and is responsible for developing a strategic plan to accomplish goals and objectives.

Economic Development Commission (EDC)

The Talbot County Economic Development Commission consists of eighteen members, seven of whom are appointed by the County Council for three-year terms as at-large members, and four representatives selected by the municipalities of the Town of Easton, the Town of Oxford, the Town of St. Michaels and the Town of Trappe. The remaining members, including the County Manager and the Council Liaison, are Ex-Officio members. The role of the Economic Development Commission is to advise the Talbot County Council on economic matters and to support the initiatives of the Talbot County Office of Economic Development.

Talbot County Economic Development Commission

Commissioner	Representing	Term Expiration
Len Wendowski, Chairman	Town of Easton	June 30, 2011
Ron Frampton, Vice Chairman	At-Large	June 30, 2011
Dan Adams	Town of Trappe	June 30, 2011
Michael Clemmer	Manufacturing	June 30, 2010
Phillip (Chip) Councell, Jr.	Agriculture	June 30, 2012
John General	Small Business	June 30, 2011
Paul Makosky	At-Large	June 30, 2012
Geoff Oxnam	Utilities	June 30, 2010
Jay Stamerro	Manufacturing	June 30, 2011
David Thompson	Town of Oxford	June 30, 2012
Michael Brady	Town of St. Michaels	June 30, 2011
Shannon Dill	Agriculture	Ex-Officio
Debbi Dodson	Tourism	Ex-Officio
Mike Henry	Easton Airport	Ex-Officio
Andy Hollis	County Manager	Ex-Officio
Corey Pack	County Council	Ex-Officio
Al Silverstein	Chamber of Commerce	Ex-Officio
Dr. Barbara Viniar	Chesapeake College	Ex-Officio

Talbot County: "A great place to study Environmental Sciences . . .
bring your Science Projects to our Backyard . . "

Talbot County fronts the Chesapeake Bay and is located midway down the Delmarva Peninsula, a 6,057 square mile area just east of metropolitan Washington, DC, referred to locally as Maryland's Eastern Shore. Talbot County is surrounded by over 600 miles of shoreline and supports large grain fields and forests.

The County is poised to serve as a great place to conduct environmental studies and to attract environmental technology companies. There are many opportunities to promote Talbot County as an attractive home for emerging companies which require a place to explore environmental sciences – and who are interested in the overlap of natural sciences, engineering and social sciences.   Solutions to 21st Century environmental issues will require large, multidisciplinary teams to analyze complex environmental problems, and will require uninterrupted areas to conduct these studies. Talbot County provides this opportunity.
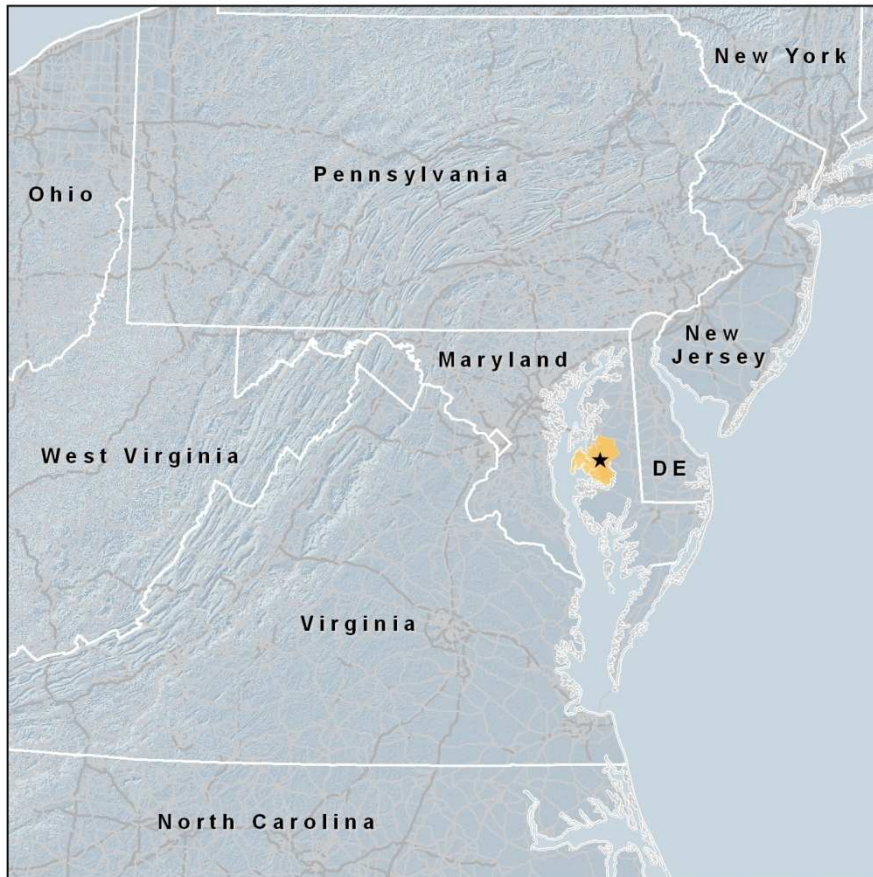
When viewed from space, this area is the noticeable remaining GREEN spot on the Mid-Atlantic seaboard. This is attributed, in large part, to the poultry industry, which is as much about chickens as it is about large grain farms supporting the $1.3 billion a year industry in Maryland. The requirement to balance the demands for production while sustaining minimal environmental impact has required the poultry industry to implement and adopt advanced technologies. Many of these technologies are now being integrated into new markets.

Talbot County's population has steadily increased at 1.4% per year for the last 25 years. The County economy has remained healthy, attributable to revenues from real estate transfer and recordation taxes and a diverse manufacturing and technology base of employers. The agricultural, manufacturing production, professional services and medical/healthcare sectors are supported by seven industrial parks and a regional employment base of 84,000 workers. The Easton Airport, located at the north entrance to the Town of Easton, currently serves general aviation needs for the Mid-Atlantic region with 51,000 annual operations.

Talbot County location . . .
proximate to the Baltimore/Washington, DC Corridor with an average commute time of 1.3 hours

The Delmarva Peninsula is surrounded on three sides by the Chesapeake Bay, the Delaware Bay, and the Atlantic Ocean. Centrally located on the Delmarva Peninsula, Talbot County is bounded by the Choptank River and Dorchester County to the south, Caroline County to the east, Queen Anne's County and the Wye River to the north, and the Chesapeake Bay to the west.

Within close proximity to the Baltimore/Washington, DC corridor and the Mid-Atlantic metropolitan market, Talbot County is accessible to major cities, international airports and ports. U.S. Route 50 serves as a major north/south transportation thoroughfare for the Delmarva Peninsula and bisects Talbot County. U.S. Route 301 is a major truck transport corridor linking Wilmington, DE with points north, and Washington, DC with points south. Talbot County supports an economic hub within a 25-mile radius from downtown Easton, attracting workers into the county. Additionally, about 30% of the workforce commutes from out of the county on a daily basis.

Highway Distances from Easton:

Baltimore, MD	**59 miles**
Wilmington, DE	**65 miles**
Washington, DC	**73 miles**
Philadelphia, PA	**110 miles**
New York, NY	**195 miles**
Newport News, VA	**207 miles**

Talbot County serves as the Mid-Shore regional commercial, financial and medical services hub supporting a workforce within a 25-mile radius from downtown Easton.

	2008 est.	2007	2000
Regional Population	160,000		
Regional Workforce	87,414		
County Population	36,215	36,000	33,812
County Civilian Labor Base	18,884	18,716	16,880
Total County Employment	17,786	18,018	
Net Job Gains	- 232	860	
Unemployment Rate (2008)	5.8%	3.6%	
County Based Employers	1,605	1,735	

Information based on the 2008 Maryland Department of Labor License and Regulation Civilian Wage Reports
And the US Census Quick Facts

Earned Income	Talbot Co.	Maryland	United States
Less than $25,000	16.0 %	16.1 %	24.5 %
$25,000 to $49,900	25.2 %	20.7 %	25.6 %
$50,000 to $74,999	19.4 %	18.8 %	18.8 %
$75,000 to $100,000	16.1 %	14.4 %	12.1 %
$100,000 to $150,000	13.6 %	17.0 %	11.4 %
$150,000 and over	9.7 %	13.0 %	7.6 %

Total Income	Talbot Co.	Maryland	United States
Mean Household	**$80,701**	$80,669	$60,374
Median Household	**$53,915**	$66,873	$50,007
Per Capita	**$38,916**	$32,933	$26,178

Education Rate

Graduate rate for high school seniors	84.4 %
High School Graduates entering workforce upon graduation	17.2 %
Graduates going on to higher education	77.4 %
AA Degree or higher	38.0 %

Incorporated Towns in Talbot County include:
Easton, Oxford, Queen Anne, St. Michaels and Trappe

Talbot County has enforced restrictions on residential development in the rural and environmentally sensitive areas of the county and supports infill development within the incorporated towns and the 22 villages within the county.

85% of the homes in Talbot County are single family units;
Talbot County Median Home value: $331,000 (2007 Census)
12% are multi-family units; 3% are mobile homes;
38% of housing units were renter occupied in 2007;

Most of the housing demand has been directed to the towns in designated Priority Funding Areas (PFAs). The 600 miles of shoreline afford breathtaking views and desirable home sites. This demand promotes an inflation of land prices throughout the county.

The attraction to waterfront properties and small villages on the west side of U.S. Route 50 caters to the affluent, while the east side of U.S. Route 50 offers large tracts of agricultural land and a variety of housing opportunities with all the amenities offered by the towns and villages.

Relatively low tax rates and extensive public investments in infrastructure help support Talbot County as a desirable place to live, work and play.

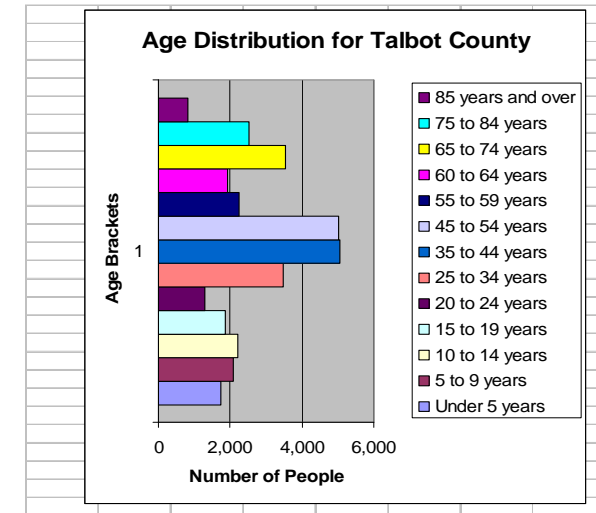**Talbot County Housing Status**

2007 Total Households	19,218 Units
2007 Occupied Households	16,206 Units
Owner Occupied	11,944 Units
Renter Occupied	4,262 Units
2007 Vacant Housing	3,012 Units

Talbot County's demographic characteristics includes an older population with a median age of 44.5 years and one of the highest per capita incomes in the country.

The Maryland average age is 37.4 (2006)

Talbot County average age is 44.5 years and is one of the oldest average populations in the state, attributable to the large influx of retirees.

A majority of the county's population of 36,215 (2008) is female and Caucasian.

         Female = 18,940 or 52.3%

         Male = 17,275 or 47.7%

Hispanic population is estimated to be 1,122, or 3.1 % of the total population.

African American population is estimated to be 4,889, or 13.5% of total population.

Caucasian is estimated to be approximately 29,701, or 82.6% of total population.

Data based on U.S. Census 2005 – 2007

Age Distribution for Talbot County

Legend:
- 85 years and over
- 75 to 84 years
- 65 to 74 years
- 60 to 64 years
- 55 to 59 years
- 45 to 54 years
- 35 to 44 years
- 25 to 34 years
- 20 to 24 years
- 15 to 19 years
- 10 to 14 years
- 5 to 9 years
- Under 5 years

Age Brackets / Number of People (0, 2,000, 4,000, 6,000)

Total Population by Race for Maryland's Jurisdictions, July 1, 2005						
State/Region/Jurisdiction	**Total**	**White Alone**	**Black or African American Alone**	**American Indian and Alaska Native Alone**	**Asian Alone**	**Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone**	**Two or More Races**
Maryland	5,600,388	3,586,856	1,640,316	17,857	267,169	3,471	84,719
Baltimore Region	2,610,063	1,719,809	752,313	7,710	93,233	1,500	35,498
Suburban Washington Region	1,994,407	1,057,440	728,312	6,958	161,415	1,540	38,742
Southern Maryland Region	323,265	236,914	73,079	1,560	6,034	181	5,497
Western Maryland Region	245,443	223,903	17,213	379	2,076	94	1,778
Upper Eastern Shore Region	230,812	205,170	21,147	711	1,917	133	1,734
Caroline	31,822	26,736	4,470	193	155	10	258
Cecil	97,796	90,743	4,853	304	938	17	941
Kent	19,899	16,462	3,138	49	172	6	72
Queen Anne's	45,612	41,186	3,591	103	398	8	326
Talbot	35,683	30,043	5,095	62	254	92	137
Lower Eastern Shore Region	196,398	143,620	48,252	539	2,494	23	1,470
Dorchester	31,401	22,263	8,679	75	264	0	120
Somerset	25,845	14,625	10,770	83	217	1	149
Wicomico	90,402	66,083	21,515	282	1,587	19	916
Worcester	48,750	40,649	7,288	99	426	3	285

Prepared by the Maryland Department of Planning, Planning Data Services, from the Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, August 2006.

Talbot County hosts regional knowledge-based resources to support technology development . . .

Cooperative Oxford NOAA Lab – National Center for Coastal Oceanic Science, Coastal Environmental Health and Bimolecular Research – Co-located with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Coast Guard Station, the Lab employs 40 scientists and technicians in Oxford, MD. The joint partners are responsible for monitoring the entire Chesapeake Bay ecosystem.

Calhoon MEBA Engineering School (MEBA) – Located on a 600 acre campus on St. Michaels Road in Talbot County, MEBA operates as a private maritime educational facility, training members of the Marine Engineers Beneficial Association, as well as all maritime and related industry professionals. MEBA offers internationally recognized, state-of-the-art training and experience that enhances the safety, reliability, and profitability of vessels and equipment while preserving and protecting the natural environment.

Institutes of Higher Learning proximate to Talbot County:
Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, MD offers Certificate and AA Degree Programs
Higher Education Center, Wye Mills, MD offers BA/BS and MS Degree Programs
Salisbury University, Salisbury, MD offers BA/BS/MS/PhD Degree Programs
University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Princess Anne, MD offers BA/BS/MS/PhD Degree Programs
Washington College, Chestertown, MD offers BA and MS Degree Programs

SHS/UMMS Medical Facilities: Serves the Upper Eastern Shore with The Memorial Hospital at Easton and major medical facilities. Employs 1,700 workers with $161 million in net operating revenues (FY 06)

CBRTCE Chesapeake Bay Regional Technical Center for Excellence: (located in Talbot County) Promotes technology-based business development for the Eastern Shore Region; federal and State laboratory technology transfer resources and higher education institutional partnerships promote technology development
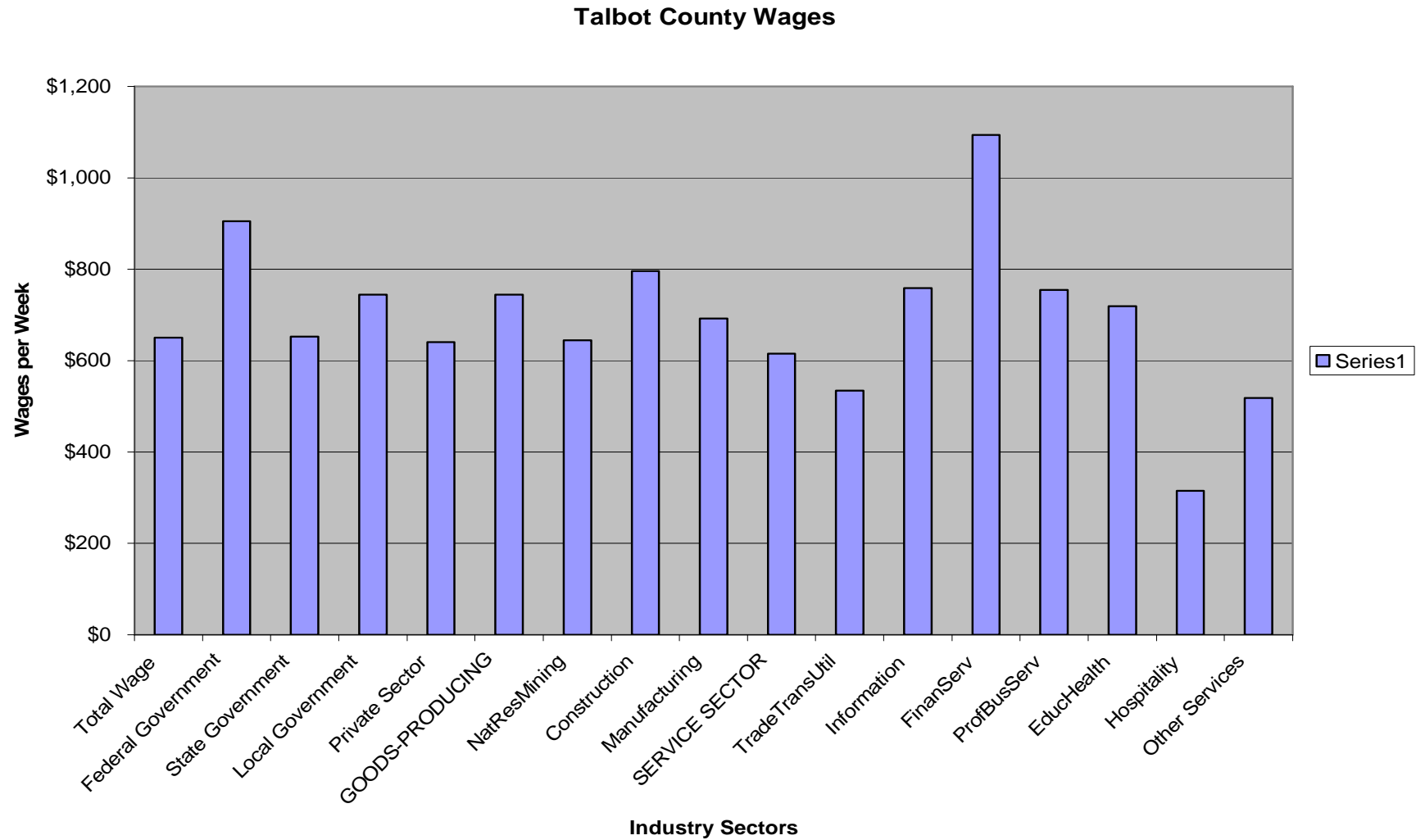
Wye Institute and Wye Research and Education Center: (located in neighboring Queen Anne's County) University of Maryland Agriculture Research Center; Eastern Shore Land Conservancy Program

University of Maryland, Horn Point Center for Environmental Studies: (**located in neighboring Dorchester County**) research facility with newly expanded lecture and conference facility, operates an internationally recognized Oyster Incubator and Seed Program for the Chesapeake Bay
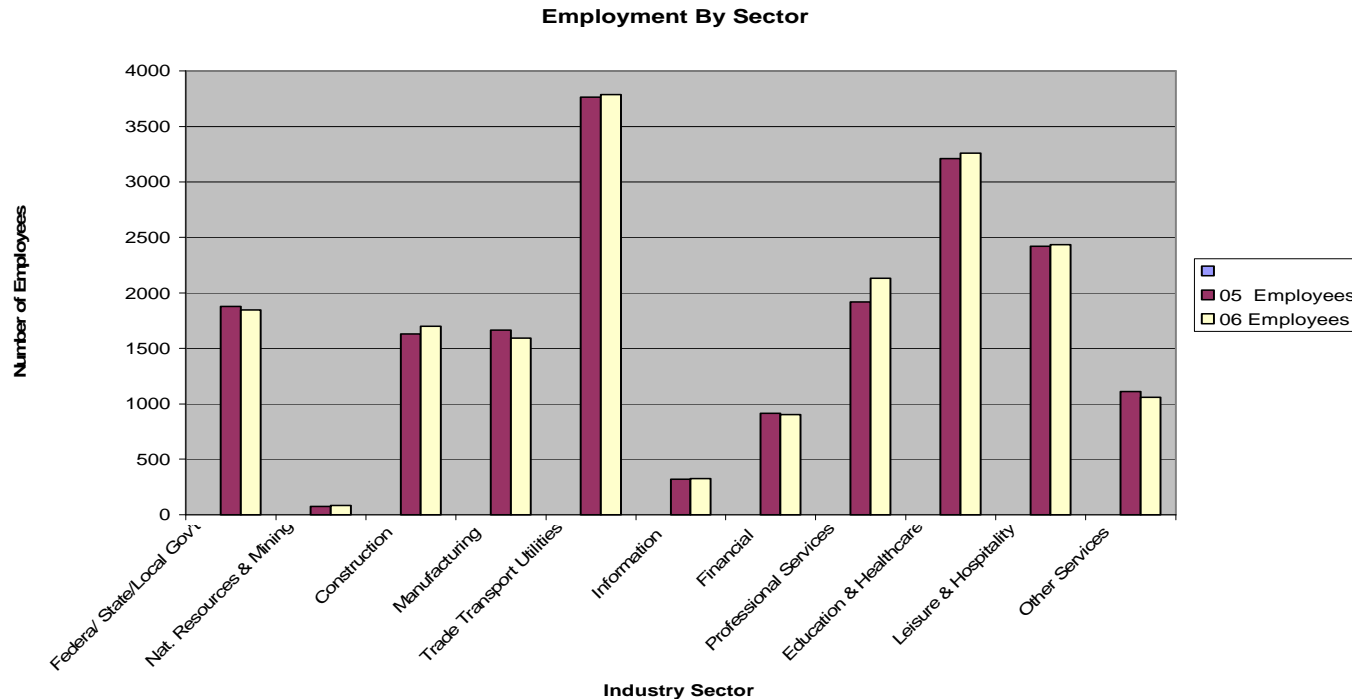
NASA Wallops Flight Facility/Goddard Space Flight Center: (located in Wallops, Virginia) NASA's primary facility for suborbital missions, launching of sounding rockets, scientific balloons, and performance of aircraft research

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Wages By Employment Sector for Talbot County (2008)

Talbot County Wages

Chart showing Wages per Week (Y-axis, $0 to $1,200) by Industry Sectors (X-axis). Legend: Series1.

Industry Sectors (X-axis): Total Wage, Federal Government, State Government, Local Government, Private Sector, GOODS-PRODUCING, NatResMining, Construction, Manufacturing, SERVICE SECTOR, TradeTransUtil, Information, FinanServ, ProfBusServ, EducHealth, Hospitality, Other Services

Talbot County Employment By Industry Sector

Employment By Sector

There were 1,700 private non-farm reporting units (Businesses) in Talbot County in the 4th quarter of 2008, with the majority of the businesses employing 50 workers or less. The economic base of Talbot County is supported by medical and healthcare facilities, trade, transport and utilities, government facilities, leisure and hospitality, manufacturing, construction, financial services, information services, natural resources and other services. The 20 largest employers include medical and healthcare services, manufacturing, financial services, professional services and national retail/consumer goods operations.

Talbot County Manufacturing Base includes: Data Analysis, Environmental Testing, GeoSpatial Information Systems, Information Systems, Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Production, Pharmaceuticals, Pharmaceutical Packaging, Scientific Instruments, Seafood and Poultry Processing, Rugged Shelter Fabricators, and Wood Products.

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Talbot County Town and County Infrastructure and Tax Structure

Easton Utilities Commission

Easton Utilities Commission, owned and operated by the Town of Easton, is an enterprise operation providing electricity, water, wastewater treatment, natural gas, cable television, redundant Internet and advertising services for the Town of Easton. The Town invested $36 million to provide for expansion of the wastewater sewer treatment facility which is expected to support development requirements in Easton through 2030.

Delmarva Power (PEPCO) and **Choptank Electric Cooperative** provide electric service to Talbot County.

Municipal Water/Wastewater Sewage Systems

The Towns of Oxford, Trappe and Easton operate their own sewer and wastewater treatment systems. St. Michaels and the Village of Tilghman have County-owned and operated wastewater treatment systems. The County continues to invest in new technologies and programs to reduce nitrogen levels of on-site septic systems and to encourage homeowners to maintain septic systems in good operating order.

Natural Gas

Talbot County is served by the Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company/Chesapeake Utilities which has natural gas available in Easton.

The Mid-Shore Regional Council has teamed with the Lower Shore Tri-County Council, the Upper Shore Regional Council, and the Southern Maryland Cooperative to form a Broadband Cooperative which connects the Patuxent River Naval Air Command (located in Lexington Park, Maryland) and the NASA Wallops Flight Facility (located in Wallops, Virginia) to provide the backbone for high-speed fiber service to much of the Eastern Shore, including rural areas of Talbot County. The project is expected to be accessible in December 2009.
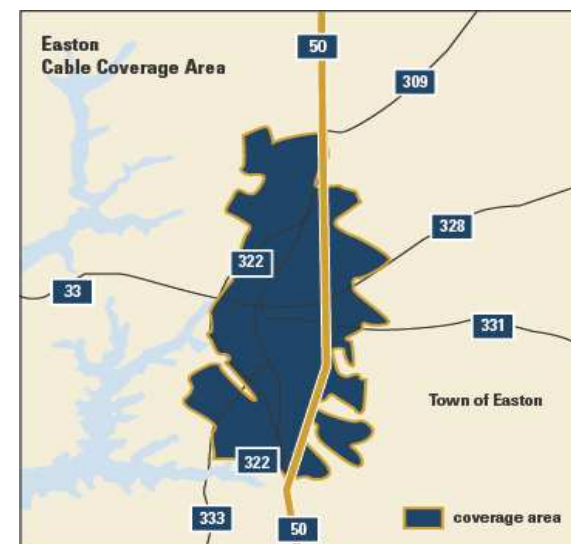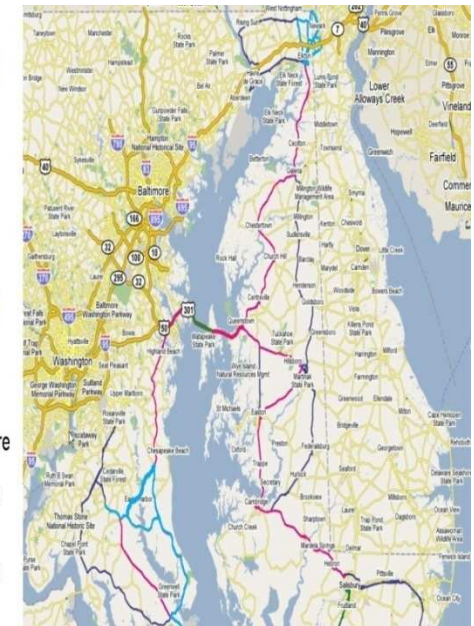
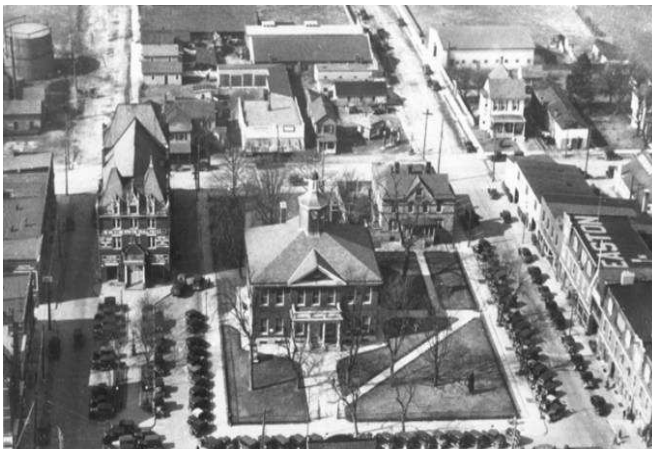| Tax Structure	Talbot Co.	Maryland
Corporate Income Tax	None	8.25%
Personal Income Tax	2.25%	2.0-6.25%
Sales and Use	None	6.0%
Real Property	$0.449	$0.112
Business Personal Property Tax	None	None
Major Tax Credits	Job Creation, Research and Development and Environmental Technologies	

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Historic Downtown Easton has adopted an infill redevelopment plan that is attracting new investments and businesses to compliment the cultural and arts community. The Historic Tidewater Inn serves as a landmark for residents and visitors.

The Town of Easton is the county seat of government for Talbot County and is considered a Mid-Shore regional hub for commercial, financial and medical services. The Town has several mixed use projects in the planning stages that will support infill and redevelopment.

Historic Easton has adopted a plan for redevelopment proposed by Development Consultants AKRF and Street Works. The plan proposes approximately 170,000 sq. ft. of new residential and 160,000 sq. ft. of commercial development with accommodations for a parking garage. Much of the planned infill is anticipated to be occupied by young professionals entering the job market, two-income relocating families, and early retirees.

The historic Tidewater Inn has recently completed a $10 million restoration and renovation, and continues to anchor downtown. The Easton Market Square is a mixed use development project at the north entrance to town which links a vibrant Farmers Market to shops and restaurants.   The CADMUS Building, owned by Cenveo, makes room for 190,000 sq. ft. of redevelopment, attracting small technology-based businesses and commercial services tenants. The project is expected to be available 2010.

The Avalon Foundation promotes live venues at the historic Avalon Theater and supports many cultural events, including the summer Plein Air Festival. The Waterfowl Festival, Inc. stages an annual wildlife arts festival the second weekend in November, hosting over 400 exhibitors. Since its inception in 1971, the Festival has raised over $5 million to fund area conservation projects. The Academy of the Arts and the Talbot County Historic Society host Museums with local and national exhibits.

Easton Population and Growth

2000 Census		11,708
2006	Easton Population	14,666
2007	Easton Population	14,863
2008	Easton Population	15,000
Growth Rate		1.34% per year

Talbot County agriculture contributed $50,541,000 to the local economy in 2008

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Talbot County records a total of 171,000 acres for use in the 279 square miles within its jurisdiction.

Over 60% of that land, or 109,002 acres (in 2008) is used for agriculture. The majority of the farming is in large grain production.

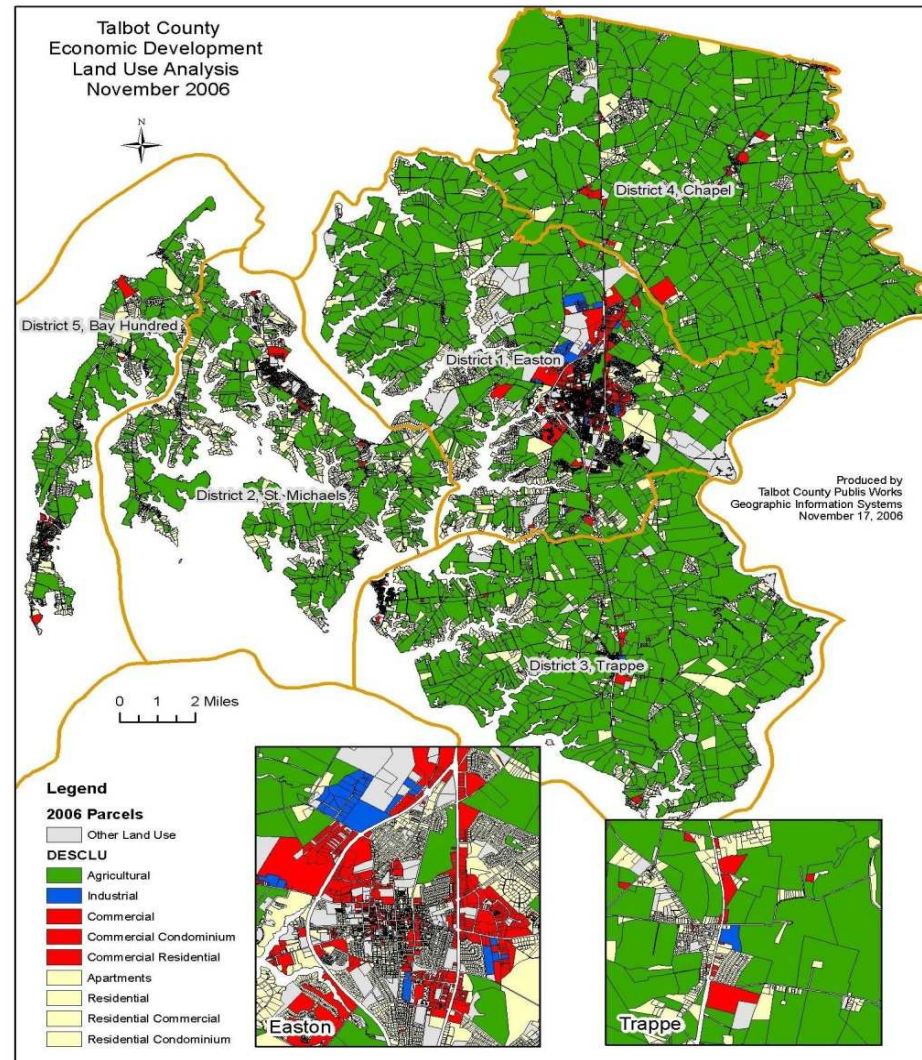| Year	2008	2007
Number of Farms:	305	288
Land in Use (Acres):	109,002	105,729
Average Farm (Acres)	357	367
Average Farm Value	$165,708	$116,149

The Market Value of agricultural production in Talbot County contributed $50,541,000 to the economy in 2008.

Crop Sales:	$25,388,000
Livestock Sales:	$25,153,000

Operating Farms: 280
Average Farm: 367 acres
Total Agricultural Parcels: 2,150

Talbot County
Economic Development
Land Use Analysis
November 2006

District 4, Chapel

District 5, Bay Hundred

District 1, Easton

Produced by
Talbot County Publis Works
Geographic Information Systems
November 17, 2006

District 2, St. Michaels

District 3, Trappe

0   1   2 Miles

Legend
2006 Parcels
Other Land Use
DESCLU
Agricultural
Industrial
Commercial
Commercial Condominium
Commercial Residential
Apartments
Residential
Residential Commercial
Residential Condominium

Easton

Trappe

The Talbot County Council adopted an Agriculture Visioning Plan to preserve agricultural land and to support agriculturally-based industries. "To retain Talbot County farms, the land must be used for agriculture production."

Talbot County Agriculture Visioning Plan

An Agriculture Visioning Plan, compiled by members of the Talbot County community, was presented to the Talbot County Council and adopted in 2008.

The Plan addresses the sustainable requirements of Talbot County's agricultural base, including large grain farms, poultry and mid-size farm operations, small value-added farms and resource-based agriculture. "Sustaining a working landscape of grain and specialty crop farming that continues to define our quality of life and serve as an asset to the community" is the mission of the Agriculture Visioning Plan.

Talbot County views opportunities to expand marketing efforts with regional brands that identify our agricultural products with our region with an emphasis on quality, freshness, and food safety.

Diversifying agricultural grain products with alternative crops for bio-fuel and energy production impacts the commodities markets and the price structure for corn and soybeans.

Large grain farms supply Perdue and Allen Family Foods, large poultry processors on the Eastern Shore. The poultry industry contributes $3 billion annually to the state's economy.

Talbot County hosts seven industrial parks and opportunities for infill industrial development

Land Use in Talbot County

Total Acreage in Commercial Use

    2007   3,023 acres

    2006   3,021 acres

Total Commercial Parcels

    2007   1,312 parcels

    2006   1,298 parcels

Total Acreage in Industrial Use

    2007   479 acres

    2006   462 acres

Total Industrial Parcels

    2007   69 parcels

    2006   68 parcels

Industrial Parks

Easton supports 6 industrial parks (illustrated at left).

Talbot County supports 1 industrial park.

Clifton Industrial Park	30 acres
Airport Industrial Park	126 acres
Easton Business Center	30 acres
Glebe Park	31.5 acres
Carlton Business Park	57 acres
Easton Technology Center	162 acres
Talbot Commerce Park	111 acres

Talbot County Commercial Development in 2009

Talbot County continues to experience commercial development, with most of the activity occurring within the town limits of Easton. Commercial activity of note includes several projects nearing completion in 2009.

Project	Total SF	Completion
Talbot County		
Talbot County Senior Center	7,634 SF	June 2009
(on Brookletts Avenue in the Town of Easton)		
Easton Commons Projects:		
Country Inn and Suites	44,548 SF	January 2010
Gillis Gilkerson Projects:		
Medical Office Space	22,000 SF	June 2009
Glebe Business Park		
Warren Woodworks	26,000 SF	June 2009
Easton Plaza		
Belk's Department Store	67,820 SF	Proposed
Waterside Village Phase I	330,000 SF	Complete
Chick-Fil-A	4,145 SF	August 2009
Sleepy's	7,171 SF	August 2009
Route 50		
Sonic	1,728 SF	August 2009
St. Michaels		
High's Store	3,500 SF	February 2009

Retention of Major Manufacturers and Employers in Talbot County

Shore Health System/University of Maryland Medical System (SHS/UMMS) is the largest employer in the Mid-Shore Region with 2,500 employees, 1,700 of which reside in Talbot County. SHS/UMMS has completed a 40,000 sq. ft. Emergency Pavilion for The Memorial Hospital at Easton and is in the planning stages for a $250 million Medical Complex to service the entire Upper Shore Region.

Allen Family Foods, Inc. is recognized as a top producer of poultry products. Allen retains 550 jobs at its Cordova facility.

Global Strategies, an ISO 9001/2000 certified manufacturer of rugged mobile support systems for the U.S. Government, is based in 200,000 sq. ft. of manufacturing space.

Quality Health Strategies, a Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse investigator, serves as a government contractor with a national presence at its Easton Headquarters.

Wildlife International (WI) expanded operations to accommodate European requirements for endocrine disruption testing. They are proposing a 15,000 sq. ft. lab space addition to their current facility. WI employs 30 Biologists/Ph.D.'s and retains a base of 97 workers.

Celeste Packaging, recently acquired by Pre Pak, operates as a contract packaging provider for the pharmaceutical and health products industry.

Celeste Industries, internationally known chemical manufacturer for airline industry

JASCO North America, North American headquarters for its Japanese parent company, JASCO International, has recently purchased a 10,000 sq. ft. facility for assembly and distribution of spectrometers and analytical equipment.

L3/BAI, Manufacturer of Unmanned Aircraft Vehicles (UAV) with surveillance and detection systems, produces a range of UAV's for government and private contractors.

SeaWatch International operates a production facility in Easton and is recognized as the largest harvester and processor of clam products in the world. All of the clams are harvested in U.S. fishing waters under U.S. federal regulations.

Shore Bancshares, Inc. is a financial holding company with headquarters in Easton, and is the sole shareholder of The Talbot Bank of Easton, Centreville National Bank of Maryland, The Felton Bank in Felton, Delaware, The Avon Dixon Agency, LLC, Elliott Wilson Insurance, LLC, and Wye Financial Services.

Shore Health System/University of Maryland Medical System

Shore Health System, Inc. (SHS) was created in 1996 with the merger of Dorchester General, begun in 1904, and The Memorial Hospital at Easton, begun in 1907. In 2006, SHS merged with University of Maryland Medical System and today SHS/UMMS serves a community of 100,000 healthcare patients on the Mid and Upper Eastern Shore and Southern Delaware.

Shore Health/UMMS employs 2,500 workers and 200 physicians in the Mid-Shore area. The Memorial Hospital at Easton, which has 140 licensed beds, is one of three hospitals operated by Shore Health System, Inc. on the Upper Shore.

The Hospital's primary service area includes Caroline, Dorchester, and Talbot counties; its secondary service area includes Queen Anne's and Kent counties. Hospital services span a broad range of primary and secondary inpatient acute care services, including acute rehabilitation, medical and surgical, obstetrical/gynecological, pediatrics, oncology, renal, neuroscience, and critical care services. Shore Regional Cancer Center and the Requard Center for Radiation Oncology provide state-of-the-art cancer care for the Mid-Shore Region. Shore Health System's cancer services also include outpatient chemotherapy at both The Memorial Hospital at Easton and Dorchester General.

The Requard Center for Acute Rehabilitation is a 20-bed "hospital within a hospital," whose staff provides acute nursing care, medical supervision by specially trained physicians, and a comprehensive program of physical, occupational and speech therapy for adults recovering from injuries, surgery and illnesses.

A New $250 million state-of-the-art medical facility is planned for the region and represents the single largest economic development project on the Mid-Shore in the foreseeable future.

The Talbot County Council purchased two parcels of land totaling approximately 257 acres, located at the north entrance to the Town of Easton on U.S. Route 50 near the Talbot County Community Center. The County has offered the site to SHS/UMMS as an expression of interest in retaining the proposed new regional medical center campus in or near the Town of Easton.

The site offers proximity to the Mid-Shore Region and to the Easton Airport complete with all the utilities and infrastructure that the Town of Easton has to offer a development of this magnitude. Shore Health System, Inc. is in its final stages of prioritizing sites for the new complex.

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Easton Airport is located adjacent to U.S. Route 50 at the north entrance to the Town of Easton

**Easton Airport received the FAA Eastern Region
General Aviation Airport of the Year Award in 2008**

The Easton Airport is a general aviation airport which operates as a self-sufficient enterprise on revenues generated from fuel sales, ground lease rent, T-hangar rentals and jet fuel sales.

In 2008, Easton Airport had 51,055 operations supporting 40 businesses with an employment base of 150 employees and a regional impact of 350 jobs generating revenues of $3,167,316, and an economic impact to the immediate community of $52 million.

A $12 million investment in infrastructure improvements and upgrades to the facility have been made over the past six years with funds from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Maryland Aviation Administration ,and the Airport.

A contract air traffic control tower was completed in 2007. Operating from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week, the tower provides air traffic control services.

$40 million in FAA funding has been earmarked for the runway and other safety enhancements which are anticipated to be completed prior to 2020. An expansion of sewer services to Easton Airport is also planned in the near future.

In keeping with Homeland Security requirements and specifications, the Airport, County and Town maintain state-of-the-art security levels for both business and personal travel to the area.

Room to grow 21st Century Science Companies . . .

Talbot County, Maryland

- Located on Maryland's Eastern Shore with 600 miles of shoreline
- Home of the Cooperative Oxford Lab with NOAA, NCCOS, Coastal Environmental Health and Biomolecular Research
- Highly skilled and educated workforce
- Resident base of environmental science and technology companies

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